

Docket No. HOE96/F319CON

*PATENT*REMARKS

The amendments submitted are essentially those submitted in the previous amendment after final rejection submitted September 2, 2003 (which was not entered by the Examiner), except that it is limited only to those claims that the Examiner had indicated would be allowable in Paragraph 4 of the Advisory Action, plus new claims 118 and 119 that replace claims 147 and 148 (submitted September 2).

Specifically:

Claims 2-4, 6, 7, 56-59, 62, 63, 67-69, 71 and 76-96 are unchanged from the September 2 submittal.

New claims 97-103 correspond to claims 100-106 submitted on September 2 (with dependencies in claims 102 and 103 being changed to reflect new claim numbering.)

New claim 104 corresponds to claim 118 submitted on September 2.

New claim 105 corresponds to claim 123 submitted on September 2.

New claim 106 corresponds to claim 124 submitted on September 2 (with the dependency being on new claim 105).

New claims 107-110 correspond to claims 125-128 submitted on September 2.

New claim 111 corresponds to claim 132 submitted on September 2.

New claims 112-114 correspond to claims 133-135 submitted on September 2 (with the dependencies being changed to reflect new numbering).

New claim 115 corresponds to claim 136 submitted on September 2.

New claim 116 corresponds to claim 142 submitted on September 2 (with the dependency being changed to reflect new numbering).

New claim 117 corresponds to claim 144 submitted on September 2 (with the dependency being changed to reflect new numbering).

Support for the amended claim can be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added. Applicants also submit that claims 118 and 119, (which replace earlier submitted claims 147 and 148) are definite in scope because they further limit the claims upon

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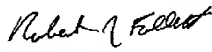
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which they are dependent by reciting a specific pH range (between pH 3 and pH 8) that is narrower than that recited in the independent claims.

Applicants also wish to confirm that the Examiner has received and acknowledged the Further Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed September 17, 2003.

Consideration of this amendment, prompt examination and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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